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LECTURE LVII.

INDIA REPLIES TO FALSEHOODS AND HALF-TRUTHS.

"BRITISH EXPLOITATION OF INDIA AND OF THE INDIAN WORKER."

NAZI LIES. For some time after the war broke out, German propagandists were very busy telling the world that INDIA was not giving her support to BRITAIN,

and that INDIA's war effort would be negligible. The exploits of Indian troops, in LIBYA and in ABYSSINIA, in ERITREA and in IRAQ, have so clearly and effectually given the lie to propaganda of this kind, that the Nazi propagandists have had to look around for some other line of lies to sell to listeners and readers.

THE MYTH OF EXPLOITATION: BRITISH CAPITAL. The Exploitation of INDIA is, of course, a favourite theme. But when the statements made are analysed they really mean nothing more than that BRITAIN has poured capital into INDIA to develop her railways and her industries—the industries that to-day are working hard to produce a multitude of munitions and articles of equipment, etc., for the common war effort. Not even the most rabid of propagandists ever suggested that the thousands of millions of pounds invested in the UNITED STATES and the States of South AMERICA meant the exploitation of those countries by BRITAIN. It is only India or the British Colonies that are said to be "exploited" by the investment of capital, never the Dominions, who have also been, to an even greater extent, the recipients of British capital.

MYTH OF LABOUR EXPLOITATION. The exploitation of the workers is another card often played by GERMANY. The approach here is to represent the Indian workman as being refused the benefits of organisation, ground down by capitalists—virtually in a state of slavery. Coming from a nation that has brutally repressed trade unionism in its own country, and has literally enslaved the workers in other countries that it has conquered, dragging hundreds of thousands of Poles from their homes to work under vile conditions in the factories of GERMANY, such an accusation is amazing. The facts are that social and labour legislation in India is well advanced. The first Factory Act was passed sixty years ago. To-day there are also statutes dealing with Trade Unions, Trade Disputes, Workmen's Compensation, Maternity Benefit, Conciliation and Arbitration, Prompt Payment of Wages, Hours of Work, Working Conditions in Shops and Offices, etc.

LABOUR LEGISLATION IN ADVANCE OF OTHER COUNTRIES. India is still primarily an agricultural country, and the number of workers in organised industry forms only a small proportion of India's population of four hundred millions, but with the development of organised industry has

grown the development of legislation for the protection of its workers. The Factories Act, as finally amended in 1934, is a very comprehensive piece of legislation, with some provisions which are in advance of anything even in western countries. Hours of work are strictly regulated, the maximum number permitted being 54 per week, although many factories do not work so many. "Spreadover," the limitation of the period of consecutive hours during which a worker is at the disposal of his employer, is also strictly regulated. No child under the age of 12 can be employed in a factory. Between the ages of 12 and 15 children can be employed for not more than 5 hours a day, provided they have received a certificate of fitness from a certified surgeon, who is a Government official. An "adolescent" between the ages of 15 and 17 can only be employed for 5 hours a day, unless he has been certified as fit to work as an adult. Factory owners are compelled to carry out specific measures for increasing the cooling power of the air, if they are of opinion that it is insufficient to secure operatives against danger to health or serious discomfort. Adequate supplies of water for drinking and washing, créches for the children of women workers, and adequate first aid appliances, are other things that factory owners are required to provide. Weekly holidays and rest intervals are also provided for, and there are elaborate provisions for the fencing of machinery and the prevention of accidents.

STRIKING STATISTICS. There has been a striking increase in the number of factories, and of the people employed in them, in the last 40 years. In 1902 there were 1,533 factories, employing 541,634 workers. By 1922 the number had grown to 5,144, employing 1,361,002 workers. The latest available figures, those for 1938, were 9,743 factories employing 1,737,755 workers, of whom 245,099 were women. The latter, as well as children, cannot be employed between 7 p.m. and 6 a.m.

TRADE UNIONS. The organisation of the workers of India into trade unions has always presented difficulties. In many industrial centres the factory workers have their roots in the village. They come to the cities to earn money. Usually they do not bring their families with them, and while they may spend most of their lives working in a factory, they return to their villages for long periods, and never really settle down in the city. Trade union organisers do not find in such a labour force a very fruitful field

for their efforts. Moreover, many so-called trade union leaders have been merely opportunists, seeking to use the workers as pawns in a political game. But progress has been made. Trade unions were given legal status on the same lines as in Britain by the Trade Unions Act of 1926, and by 1928—29, 75 unions had registered under the Act, with a membership approaching 200,000. By 1937—38, the number of unions had risen to 420, with a membership of 400,000. To-day it is estimated that there are 700 trade unions in India, with a nominal membership of half a million. The actual paying membership would probably be considerably less, as only a few unions keep proper records.

LABOUR REPRESENTED IN LEGISLATURE. Under the Government of India Act, 1935, Labour has direct representation in the Provincial Legislatures, some members being elected by constituencies formed out of groups of registered trade unions, others by special labour constituencies composed of workers in factories.

PROTECTION TO WORKERS: CONCILIATION MEASURES. Futile strikes, organised by extremists for political purposes, have caused great loss to industrial labour in India. Figures worked out by the Bombay Government's Labour Office, showed that over a period of years the workers in the cotton mills in BOMBAY City had lost ten crores of rupees (£7½ million) by strikes, while during the same period the workers in the AHMEDABAD mills in the same Province had lost only 2 lakhs of rupees (£15,000). The reason for this remarkable discrepancy was to be found in the fact that in Ahmedabad there was a strong, well-organised and well run Trade Union, and a strong Millowners' Association. Both employers and labour, owing to the influence of Mr. Gandhi, who lived for many years in AHMEDABAD, had accepted the principle of conciliation and arbitration to their mutual benefit. The Government of India passed a Trade Disputes Act in 1927, providing amongst other matters for Courts of Enquiry and Boards of Conciliation, but little use was made of it. The Government of BOMBAY went a step further, and in 1934 passed a Trades Disputes Conciliation Act. This measure not only set up conciliation machinery, with the Commissioner of Labour as Chief Conciliator, but also provided for the appointment of a Government Labour Officer to ascertain and represent to the employers the grievances of the workers. In 1938 more extensive legislation was passed, designed

to protect the workers by providing elaborate machinery for the investigation of grievances and for conciliation machinery, culminating in an Industrial Court presided over by a High Court Judge. BOMBAY's example is being followed by other Provinces, because the legislation there has proved so beneficial, both to labour and to capital, in preventing senseless strikes and lock-outs, while at the same time ensuring the remedy of genuine grievances.

INDIAN REPRESENTATION IN INTERNATIONAL LABOUR. By virtue of its industrial importance, India has had a seat on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, ever since that organisation was set up. One of its representatives on the Governing Body is a well-known Indian Trade Union leader, Mr. N.M. Joshi. Workers' delegates from INDIA, nominated by the Trade Unions, have always attended the yearly International Labour Conference at GENEVA.

FACTS GIVE THE LIE. It is facts such as these that give the lie to tales of brutal repression, and of callous indifference to the lot of the workers in INDIA. But Axis propagandists do not bother about facts.

THE REMAINING NEUTRALS.

The Russian hold-up of German world-schemes is more than likely to call back Hitler's attention to the remaining neutrals of EUROPE, and the possibilities inherent in their hopelessly invidious situations. In fact, on July 22nd last, Mr. Sumner Welles, UNITED STATES Secretary of State, announced that his Government had information of "new aggressive steps planned by GERMANY against the remaining independent States of EUROPE." Let us therefore consider shortly the prospects before this unfortunate—notwithstanding the fact that they are not at war—remnant.

TURKEY, being a Middle-East State, is presumably excluded from Mr. Welles' reference, though we all know that she can hardly consider herself immune from attack. FINLAND, too, is excluded, though at the time of the speech, she was nominally neutral. There remain the countries of SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, SPAIN and PORTUGAL.

SWEDEN. With FINLAND, ESTHONIA, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, DENMARK and NORWAY all in German hands or under some form of Nazi control, SWEDEN is completely encircled. She has a good small army and a good not-quite-so-small navy, but GERMANY would obviously gobble her at a gulp if she felt like it, especially as she is the only market for SWEDEN'S iron ore. The fact appears to be that GERMANY has no need to make war on SWEDEN, because she can get what she wants from her without it. When RUSSIA was fighting FINLAND, for instance, Hitler prevailed on SWEDEN not to send aid to FINLAND, or to allow help to be sent by others across Swedish territory. In June and July this year, however, German troops in large numbers travelled across SWEDEN in order to make war on RUSSIA from FINLAND! Too easy! True, political sympathies in the country are mixed. There is a minority Nazi party; there is a majority Social-Democrat party; and they and most of the inhabitants have a historic and patriotic desire to maintain neutrality. They did favour Democracies against Nazism, but the presence on their borders of two very powerful neighbours deprived them of the ability to take any sort of line unless prompted—and the Germans prompted first! There is no need for Hitler to make war here!

SWITZERLAND. It seems, too, that SWITZERLAND is at present in no immediate danger of war. Her most critical period passed, when the Germans crashed through FRANCE, and bade the Italians stick to their rôle of 'containing' the French southern armies while they did it. Before that, a joint Axis occupation of the country was definitely on the cards, but when FRANCE fell the necessity faded. Not but what we have read periodically of furious German threats against the 'unneutral' war reports in Swiss papers. But again, what need is there for Hitler to put these threats into practice, when, surrounded on all sides by German-dominated territory, all the fruits of the thriving Swiss industries and agriculture, go to GERMANY?

Moreover, if wanton greed did prompt an invasion, the saner Germans know that they would have to reckon on three things: the traditional tenacity of the Swiss in defending their very difficult terrain; the certainty that that country would be easily within range of the R. A. F.'s mounting offensive; and the probability that the Swiss would at once destroy all the Alpine tunnels, and cut communications between GERMANY and ITALY.

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL. It must be realised that these countries have far less chance of maintaining even nominal neutrality than the other two we have discussed. They are not perhaps mere 'money for jam' to the Germans, but their occupation (Hitler presumably regards both countries as a single objective) would open up some considerable strategic advantages for them—opportunities for a land attack on GIBRALTAR, a jumping-off place for North AFRICA, and new bases on the Atlantic from which to prey on British and Allied shipping and even to invade AMERICA!

The opposition from a population already exhausted by a Civil War would hardly be serious; the Falange is already a strongly Nazi element; and assured lines of communications through Vichy-ite FRANCE must make the idea too tempting to be resisted for very much longer. There is one objection to the overrunning of the Peninsula, and one only that we can see, and that is that the Spaniards have been reduced to so low a level of subsistence that, deprived of the economic assistance of BRITAIN and AMERICA, they might be forced by starvation and discontent to oppose the Germans *á la guerrilero* to prevent which the feeding of some 24 million people might be the only alternative to yet another 'army of occupation'. Neither of the choices can be exactly welcome to Hitler just now, but the prize is so glittering, and the odds in the whole atrocious gamble are so lengthening against him, that the wiping out of an ancient race by force of arms or starvation cannot much longer deter Hitler as a matter of scruple!

THE JAPANESE NAVY

ITS FIGHTING STRENGTH.

JAPAN'S Navy is stated to rank third, after the navies of Britain and the United States of America. At the Washington Naval Conference in 1922 the ratio as to capital ships of the three leading naval powers, Great Britain, the United States of America, and Japan, was laid down at 5—5—3; but towards the end of 1934 Japan gave the required two years' notice of denunciation of the Treaty, and at the Naval Conference held in London next year Japan insisted on parity.

Japan, according to "*War Illustrated*" had at the end of 1937 under construction three 46,000-ton battleships, while sixty-three other men-of-war were building or projected. The Japanese Fleet had about 200 ships with a total displacement of 756,798 tons, and it is possible that by 1941 it will have been increased to 289 ships, displacing 1,109,130 tons. In 1939, a six-year naval building programme was approved by the Japanese Cabinet, when Admiral Yonai, the Navy Minister, stated that the new programme was based on the determination that Japan's Navy must be equal to that of the strongest naval power, and of sufficient strength to deal with any international friction arising out of the construction of the " new order " in Eastern Asia.

The outside world does not know any details of Japan's Navy, but it is open to doubt whether in view of her financial condition she has been able to do more than keep her fleet reasonably up to date. It is possible that Japan may have four or five 16-in. gun battleships of over 40,000 tons under construction in Japanese yards. Two of these *Mission* and *Takamatu* were launched in November 1939 and April 1940, respectively, and so may be expected to be ready for sea this year.

Japan has now in service 10 battleships, *Nagato* and *Mutu*, completed in 1920—21, are most powerful, their displacement being 32,720 tons and their main armament eight 16-in. guns. She has further *Huso* and *Yamasira*, with displacements of 29,330 tons, armed with twelve 14-in. and sixteen 6-in. guns and *Ise* and *Hyuga*, with a displacement of 29,900 tons and a primary armament of twelve 14-in. and eighteen 5-5 in. guns. Next there are three ships of the Kongo class, completed in 1913–16; *Kongo*, *Haruma* and *Kirisima*. They have a standard displacement of 29,330 tons and are armed with eight 14-in. and sixteen 6-in. guns. There is a fourth ship of this class, *Hiej*, which was demilitarized in 1930, but has probably now been rearmed.

Japan's heavy cruisers comprise 12 ships, all armed with 8-in. guns. They are divided into four classes called after the first ship mentioned in each: *Atago*, *Takao*, *Tyokai*, and *Maya*, displacing 9,850 tons apiece, and carrying ten 8-in. guns, completed in 1932; *Nati*, *Myoko*, *Asigara* and *Haguro* 10,000 tons with ten 8-in guns, completed in 1929; and *Kako*, *Hurutaka*, *Kinugasa* and *Aobo*, displacing 7,100 tons, carrying six 8-in. guns and completed in 1926–27. There are also five old cruisers which are now used as coast defence ships; *Yukumo* (9,010 tons), *Idumo* and *Iwate* (9,180 tons), *Aduma* (8,640 tons), and *Kasuga* (7,080 tons).

Of second-class cruisers, the newest are those of the Mogmai class, all of 8,500 tons and armed with fifteen 6-1 in. guns. They are *Mogami*, *Miluma*, *Suzuya* and *Kumano*, all completed between 1935 and 1937. In the two latest ships of the class, *Tone* and *Tikuma*, the armament has been reduced, and only twelve 6-1 in. guns are mounted instead of fifteen; there are also three ships of

the Zintu class (*Zintu*, *Naka* and *Sendai*), six of the Natori class (*Natori*, *Isuzu*, *Kinu*, *Nagara*, *Yura* and *Abukuma*), five Kuma class (*Kuma*, *Tama*, *Oi*, *Kitakami* and *Kiso*), two Tenryu class (*Tenryu* and *Tatuta*) and *Yubari*. These range from 5,195 tons in the Sendai class to Yubari's 2,890 tons. They have 5-5 in. guns.

SEVEN AIRCRAFT-CARRIERS.

Japan has seven aircraft-carriers. The newest are three of the Soryu class—*Soryu*, *Hiryu* and *Syokaku*—displacing 10,050 tons ; the remainder are *Ryuzyo*, 7,100 tons, *Hosyo*, 7,470 tons and two of far larger size, *Kaga* and *Akagi*, both displacing 26,900 tons. Two more aircraft-carriers are under construction.

Of smaller ships the Japanese have some 130 destroyers (12 Kagero class, 10 of them completing ; 10 Asasio, 10 Sigure, 6 Hatuharu, 23 Hubuki, 12 Mutuki, 9 Kamikaze, 15 Akikaze, 7 Wakatake, 19 Kaya and 3 Momo). There are 12 torpedo-boats, with others building. Japan's submarines are divided into four groups, ocean-going, sea-going, minelaying and coastal, displacing 1,400 and 1,000 tons. They number some 72 with others building.

The United States Pacific Fleet is as powerful as the whole Japanese Navy, and America's building programme far surpasses that of Japan. Moreover, it may be doubted whether the Japanesee fleet would prove as formidable in action as it would appear to be on paper. Hessel Tiltman, *Free Europe's* correspondent in Washington, wrote a few weeks ago " Independent experts consider the Japanese fleet, ship for ship, about 20 per cent inferior in marksmanship, protection and manoeuvrability, to the American or British fleet. At Hawaii American Naval officers have told me that any American destroyer flotilla leader would be willing to 'take on' any Japanese cruiser, or any American cruiser a Japanese battleship. There is also a widespread impression in the Orient that the Japanese personnel does not compare in quality with the blue-jackets of the two great white navies." Yet, went on Mr. Tiltman, the Japanese are a very brave people and " it would be unwise to minimize the punch packed by the sailors of Nippon."

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

7—8—41 to 13—8—41.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR.

The Third Blitz.—The war has entered upon its eighth week and the enemy has launched a third *blitz* without reaching a decision. Though it is true he has pushed back the Russians to SOLTSI near

LENINGRAD and in the south of UKRAINE, LENINGRAD, MOSCOW and KIEV are still as far from him as ever. SMOLENSK, on the way to MOSCOW, though evacuated, is a heap of ruins. Unable to close upon KIEV he is seeking a diversion upon ODESSA and SEBASTOPOL, on towards the far-off mineral wealth of the Caucasus. LENINGRAD is still 123 miles from SOLTSI said to have been occupied. Like the *blitz* the German encirclement strategy has also failed. From the Arctic to the Black Sea the Russian defence is intact. The withdrawal if any has been 'elastic' with the line unbroken.

The German Rear is continually threatened by the guerillas, and occupied territory is constantly destroyed under the 'scorched earth policy'. In a country intersected by numerous rivers, lakes and bogs the personal hostility of the civilian population is a terrible military weapon. 'Vengeance, no quarter', these are the Russian watchwords: 'an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, blood for blood, death for death; burn and destroy'—these are the words of the battle-cry. The rich harvest of the UKRAINE said to be four times larger this year than usual has already been gathered and removed to the Urals.

Russia raids Berlin.—BERLIN now experiences a double attack, from the R. A. F. on the west and RUSSIA on the east. Russian planes visited BERLIN for the first time on Thursday last, and the raid has since been repeated. The Germans who were first disposed to deny them now admit the fact, but explain it away as 'propaganda flights', without military value. They also put forth the plea that the arrival of Russian planes was not noticed in the first instance as the listening-posts in BERLIN had been turned round towards BRITAIN.

Colossal Losses.—While the Germans ascribe an astronomical loss of a million dead to the Russians, their own losses, in the first six weeks of the war have amounted to 1,500,000 men, 5,000 tanks, 8,000 guns, and 6,000 planes. To explain away the disaster they invent a Stalin Line wherever they are halted and the carnage is colossal, forgetting it is Russian gallantry and not concrete that has converted every inch of ground into a fortress. The German losses at sea from June-22 to August 4, have been 14 submarines.

Occupied Countries in Revolt.—YUGO-SLAVIA is in open revolt. Guerillas attack German garrisons, destroy communications, tunnels, bridges, food and ammunition transport, and crops. A reign of terror exists. Large scale arrests and mass executions are being carried out,

From ALBANIA comes the report of a revolt in which the Italian troops of occupation were attacked. In CZECHO-SLOVAKIA food riots are frequent. In SLOVAKIA 800 persons are said to have been imprisoned for Communism. The general situation in the BALKANS, being serious, Field Marshal List is reported to have proceeded to ATHENS, leaving his command on the Russian front.

Slav Nations Unite.—Representatives of Poles, Czechs, Serbians, Croats, Slovenes, Macedonians and Montenegrins met in conference at Moscow on August 10 to concert measures of defence against their common foe. A Czech military unit is being formed in RUSSIA to fight the enemy.

FAR—EAST.

It is too early to say if the economic measures so promptly taken by AMERICA and BRITAIN will have a steadying effect upon Japanese policy. Just at the moment a calm of sorts prevails, though JAPAN continues her warlike preparations both north and south. JAPAN speaks with two voices. Admiral Toyoda's statement that JAPAN's southward expansion is 'purely pacific in character' is either bluff or humbug or both. It has been said that 'bluff is the fourth arm of the Japanese services'. She has already begun to overrun THAI economically and strategically without an open declaration of war.

The World against Japan.—But fortunately both THAI and all her well-wishers are wide-awake. THAI herself is preparing to fight—to the death, if necessary. In self-protection she has concentrated her forces on the eastern border.

BRITAIN has taken the initial step of issuing a clear warning. Speaking in the House of Commons on August 6, Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Minister declared that 'any action which would threaten the independence and integrity of THAI would be a matter of immediate concern to GREAT BRITAIN, more particularly as a threat to SINGAPORE'. MALAYA and BURMA are ready for any emergency. British naval forces are near or round the corner. The British Administration is being concentrated at SINGAPORE.

China has massed her forces in YUNAN on the INDO-CHINA frontier.

The U. S. A. is astir. On August 6, Cordell Hull, Secretary of State said, 'A Japanese move into THAILAND would be considered as a step menacing security and endangering territory in the Pacific.'

Australia is aware of the danger ahead. On August 9, Mr. R. G. Menzies, the Australian Prime Minister announced, 'AUSTRALIA stands

with bated breath in the most fatal hour of her history'; Mr. W. M. Hughes, the Navy Minister added 'we are just sitting up and taking notice'; and Mr. Curtin, the Labour Leader remarked, the safety of AUSTRALIA is 'at stake.'

Russia is also arming against JAPAN in the east. As Japan's 'Peace' policy is now being implemented by massing forces near VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIA has concentrated a superior army there to await the aggressor. GERMANY at this moment would no doubt prefer a Japanese thrust northwards to relieve her sore-stricken forces in RUSSIA, but any attack on VLADIVOSTOK would immediately bring AMERICA and BRITAIN upon the scene, as their interests in this region would be seriously affected.

But as indications show, the Japanese would prefer a southern adventure, taking advantage of BRITAIN'S pre-occupations in the West and the MIDDLE EAST. But it will prove a wild adventure, some 3,000 miles away from home, with the main army still locked up in CHINA. After all it may be only 'bluff'.

Soviet-Chinese Pact.—A pact between RUSSIA and CHINA for military co-operation is on the anvil.

Vichy's Enslavement.—Vichy is not FRANCE. While all FRANCE is revolting against Axis tyranny, the men of VICHY who out of pusillanimity have already surrendered INDO-CHINA to JAPAN, and are further guarding its northern frontier against CHINA as JAPAN'S henchmen, are now preparing, it would appear, to transfer North AFRICA to the Nazis. Rumour is rife that Hitler is 'squeezing' his vassals in VICHY to take the step. As a concession he is said to have lifted the ban on French arms, and permitted VICHY to manufacture planes for and transport heavy guns to, DAKAR and CASABLANCA. He is also reported to have promised a 'treaty' in the place of the 'armistice', and invited VICHY to enter the Tripartite Pact. These rumours have gained ground with the issue of a recent decree by Pétain conferring full responsibility on Darlan 'for all African policy, and after the recent meetings of the Vichy Cabinet at which Weygand from AFRICA was present. Pétain's broadcast of the night before last (August 12) announces the completion of the tragedy that will soon overwhelm FRANCE. 'Parliamentary democracy' he announced 'is dead'. Party politics will cease. Upholders of the old régime will be decimated, for which the police will be strengthened. All authority will hereafter vest in Pétain,

to whom the oath of allegiance should be personally taken. Admiral Darlan, appointed by Pétain as Defence Minister, will exercise complete control over land, air and sea forces. There will be an economic reorganisation, including the promulgation of a labour charter. In other words VICHY will go Fascist, with Darlan as its Fuehrer, Pétain continuing nominally as the head, just as Hindenburg did when Hitler was rising to power.

It is needless to add that the UNITED STATES, which has hitherto maintained a friendly attitude to VICHY, partly out of sympathy for a great fallen nation, and partly to maintain a 'listening-post' in EUROPE and offset German machinations, is now thoroughly disgusted, and may break off diplomatic relations at any moment. Already American opinion is inclined to occupy MARTINIQUE and other French Colonies in the Western Hemisphere. Negotiations are also reported to be proceeding for the occupation of air bases in BRAZIL by the UNITED STATES, in order to counteract any German threat to DAKAR.

German Fifth Column in Iran.—Evidently IRAN has not yet realised the gravity of the situation created by the infiltration of large numbers of Nazi fifth columnists. She wrongly institutes a comparison between the number of Britons and the number of Germans in the country, forgetting that whereas the Britons are old residents employed in the oil works and other activities, the Germans are mostly recent intruders, carrying on intrigues aimed against the MIDDLE EAST, and even the Shah. Infiltration has recently increased, and if IRAN does not heed the warnings already given by the American and Soviet missions, their respective Governments will, no doubt take early steps to bring the menace home in some effective way.

Anglo-Soviet Demarche to Turkey.—A joint guarantee has been given by BRITAIN and RUSSIA to TURKEY that they will respect TURKEY's rights over the DARDENELLES according to the Montreux Convention, and give full aid to TURKEY if attacked by a European Power. This assurance has been given in order to counteract German propaganda to the effect that RUSSIA has intentions upon the Straits, or that BRITAIN has come to an agreement with RUSSIA at TURKEY's expense

The R. A. F. on the offensive.—The chief targets of the week were, KIEL, HAMBURG, BERLIN and North-west GERMANY in general. On the 12th the great power stations of COLOGNE were attacked in daylight. It is now known that during this summer the R. A. F. has bombed

GERMANY as heavily as BRITAIN was bombed last winter. Though the German version describes the visiting squadrons as 'weak forces' or as 'single British aircraft', forces aggregating up to 300 have often been employed. In three weeks in June—July 2,000 tons of bombs were dropped on the RUHR, in addition to 1,000 tons over COLOGNE and 500 over BREMEN. The new British bombs are bigger and more powerful than any of German manufacture. Berliners are unable to 'take it' like the British, and an American eye-witness describes the consternation in BERLIN, describing the citizens as being frightened and running about like rabbits during these raids. BERLIN, owing to its distance is difficult to raid on short summer nights, and yet a hundred tons of bombs were rained upon the city recently in one night. To make matters worse, BERLIN is now battered from both sides—by RUSSIA and BRITAIN, and Polish squadrons are also reported to be participating in the aerial attacks upon Northern FRANCE.

In July 70 attacks were made on GERMANY and 76 on German-occupied territory. In addition to night-bombing, daylight raids by bombers, and intensive sweeps by fighters were carried out. In the MIDDLE EAST 126 attacks were delivered on various targets including BEIRUT, BENGHAZI and TRIPOLI.

Recent plane losses, excluding the Russian front are :—

Month.	British.	German.	Italian.
May ...	149	335	3
June ...	227	277	52
July ...	285	326	64
Total ...	661	938	119

The Battle of the Atlantic.—Speaking in the House of Commons on August 6, Mr. C. R. Attlee, Lord Privy Seal, stated that in the recent months, as the home waters were heavily defended, the enemy ranged 'further and further afield', so that the battle now covered a wider area, extending towards the U. S. and the African Seas. Still the British imports were maintained at a reasonable figure, and the convoys arrived safely. The enemy has failed till now to prevent the transport of food or ammunition, and BRITAIN held her own on the seas. The enemy has also been severely punished. In July, in the North Sea and on the Atlantic coast, 69 enemy ships totalling 291,000 tons were destroyed, and in the Mediterranean 23 ships totalling 168,000 tons, besides 30 more ships hit or damaged.

R. A. F. and Russian Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied Territories.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
4—8—41. (Monday.)			
	SARDINIA.		
	Italian harbours and aerodromes in SARDINIA.	No loss.	Heavily damaged.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Landing grounds and other military objectives in CYRENAICA.	...	...
	Landing grounds at EL GAZALA and TMIMI.	...	Fires and explosions started.
	The port area at DERNA ...	...	...
	Motor transports, workshops and assembly plants at DERNA.	...	Damaged.
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	...	...
	A schooner off MISURATA ...	...	Sunk.
	Enemy Merchantships off the coast near APPOLLONIA.	... No loss.	Two ships hit.
	(By Russian planes)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy Mechanised and motorised troops, Infantry and Artillery along the whole battle front. ...	...	...
	Enemy Aerodromes behind the lines ...	21 planes.	53 planes.
5—8—41. (Tuesday).			
DAY :—			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	An enemy convoy off the DUTCH coast	1 day fighter.	A 2,000 ton ship directly hit.
	Enemy patrolships off the GERMAN coast.		3 vessels hit.
	Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE.		...
	Aerodrome near CHERBOURG.		Many aircraft on the ground damaged.
NIGHT :—			
	Military objeetives in MANNHEIM, FRANKFURT and KARLSRUHE.	...	Severe and widespread damage.
	Factories and Railways at AACHEN.	...	...
	Docks at OSTENED	9 Night bombers.	...
	A large supply ship in the port of NANTES.		Hit twice.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
5—8—41. (Tuesday.)—*cont.*			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.	...	...
	The port, landing grounds, motor transport, workshops and coal storage buildings at DERNA.	...	Fires and explosions started.
	GAMBUT	...	...
	The landing ground at EL GAZALA...	...	...
	Enemy barracks at MISURATA ...	1 plane.	Damaged.
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy Mechanised troops, Infantry and Artillery along the whole front	...	...
	Enemy aircraft on enemy aerodromes	7 planes.	14 planes.
6—8—41. (Wednesday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	Offensive sweep over the ENGLISH CHANNEL.	...	...
	2 enemy tankers in the ENGLISH CHANNEL.	...	One set on fire.
	Enemy aircraft on the ground and anti-aircraft gun positions at an aerodrome near CHERBOURG.	...	Anti-aircraft guns silenced.
		1 plane.	Many planes on the ground damaged.
NIGHT :—			
	Military objectives at FRANKFURT, MANNHEIM and KARLSRUHE.	8 planes.	Fires started ; very heavy damage.
	Aerodromes in Northern FRANCE ...	1 plane.	...
	An enemy vessel off the NORWEGIAN Coast.	...	...
	An aerodrome in NORWAY ...	1 plane.	...
	SICILY.		
	Enemy aircraft on the ground at GERBINI	...	Many planes damaged.
	The Aerodrome at COMISO ...	...	Fires started.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at TRIPOLI ...	...	...
	Barracks at BARDIA ...	No loss.	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	Enemy Convoy in the MEDITERRANEAN	...	3 ships sunk ; 1 ship damaged, 1 destroyer damaged.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
6—8—41. (Wednesday.)—*cont.*			
	SICILY.		
	The submarine base at AUGUSTA ...	...	Fires started; casualties heavy.
	(By Russian planes.)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Infantry, Artillery and motorised troops along the whole Front.	...	...
7—8—41. (Thursday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	A small Convoy escorted by destroyers off the DUTCH Coast.	...	One vessel sunk.
	Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL.	...	7 planes.
NIGHT :—			
	Armament factories at ESSEN ...	...	Greatly damaged. Fires started.
	Industrial buildings and railway yards at HAMM and DORTMUND.	...	Buildings crashed.
	Enemy aerodromes and other targets in DENMARK.	...	...
	Shipping off the DUTCH coast.	...	1 ship sunk; another damaged.
	Enemy Aerodromes in Northern FRANCE.	4 bombers.	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI.	...	...
	Docks at TRIPOLI.	...	Large fires started.
	Motor transport at BARDIA.	...	Motor vehicles damaged.
	CAPUZZO and **GAMBUT.**	...	...
	Italian forces at GONDAR.	No loss.	...
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy mechanised units, Infantry and Artillery along the entire battle area.	14 planes.	21 planes.
	BERLIN.	No loss.	Damaged.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
8—8—41. (Friday).			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL.	10 day fighters.	18 day fighters.
NIGHT :—			
	Docks and shipyards at KIEL and HAMBURG.	...	...
	Two German supply ships hidden in a Norwegian Fjord north of BERGEN.	...	Ships hit.
	SICILY.		
	The harbour at CATANIA.	...	A 2000 ton vessel damaged.
	(By Russian plnaes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy Panzer troops, Infantry and aircraft on aerodromes in the whole battle area.	12 planes.	14 planes.
	Railways and military targets in BERLIN.	1 plane.	Fires and explosions started.
9—8—41. (Saturday.)			
DAY :—			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE. **Military objectives** near GRAVELINES.	...	11 planes.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The Docks at TRIPOLI ...	...	Large fires started.
	The horbour and Motor transport yard at BARDIA.		
	Railway sidings and the port at BENGHAZI.	...	Damaged.
	The port at DERNA ...	...	...
		...	...
	Landing grounds at EL GAZALA ...	...	Vehicles destroyed Fires started.
	Barracks, motor transport vehicles and petrol cars near MISURATA ...	...	...
	Ammunition dumps at BUERAT ...	...	Exploded.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
9—8—41.	(Saturday.)—*cont.*		
	SICILY.		
	A merchant vessel at SYRACUSE ...	...	...
	A Gasometer at AUGUSTA ...	1 plane.	...
	GREECE.		
	The aerodrome at ELEUSIS ...	...	Many aircraft on the ground destroyed.
	Corinth ...	...	...
	(By Russian planes)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy panzer troops and Infantry and aircraft along the whole front.	25 planes.	45 planes.
10—8—41	(Sunday.)		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	Enemy shipping off the French coast	2 bombers and 1 fighter.	1 ship burnt out. 1 enemy fighter.
	Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.	...	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Motor transport, repair sections, railway sidings, yards and dock installations at BENGHAZI.	...	Explosions and fires started.
	An aerodrome south of BENGHAZI ...	...	...
	Motor transport on the TOBRUK-BARDIA Road.	...	Many vehicles destroyed.
	Workshop buildings at BARDIA ...	...	...
	The harbour and a power station at TRIPOLI.	...	...
	The landing ground at GAZALA ...	No loss.	...
	SICILY.		
	A ship (of 1,300 tons) in SYRACUSE harbour.	...	Directly hit.
	Aerodrome at GERMAINE ...	...	1 plane.
	A collier at LAMPEDUSA ...	No loss.	Sunk.
	(By Russian Planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy panzer troops, Infantry and Aircraft on aerodromes along the whole battle area.	...	...
	A large railway bridge at CHERNOVODY.	...	Bridge destroyed.
	Ships at CONSTANZA	25 planes.	39 planes.

ENEMY Air Raids over BRITAIN, BRITISH Territories and RUSSIA.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air Force losses and results of air bombardment.
5—8—41. (Tuesday).			
DAY :—			
	Very slight air activity.		
NIGHT :—			
	East coast of ENGLAND and SCOTLAND.	...	Slight damage and a few casualties.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA	3 bombers.	Only civilian damages.
6—8—41. (Wednesday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	A few scattered points in East and South-East ENGLAND.	2 planes.	...
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW	9 planes.	...
	PALESTINE.		
	HAIFA.	...	Neither damage nor casualties.
	EGYPT.		
	SUEZ CANAL area	...	30 people killed and 35 injured.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA.	1 plane.	No damage.
7—8—41. (Thursday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
	Scattered points from East ANGLIA to North-East SCOTLAND.	...	Slight damage and a few casualties.
	A town in North-East SCOTLAND.	...	Heavy casualties.
	EGYPT.		
	ALEXANDRIA.	1 plane.	13 killed and 23 injured.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA.	1 plane, others driven away.	No damage.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air Force losses and results of air bombardment.
8—8—41. (Friday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
DAY :—			
	Eastern coastal areas ...	1 plane.	No bombs dropped.
NIGHT :—			
	Eastern ENGLAND and **a point** on the North-East Coast.	...	Very little damage and no casualties.
	EGYPT.		
	SUEZ Canal area ...	...	11 people killed; 7 injured.
9—8—41. (Saturday).			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	A few scattered points in East ANGLIA. **One place** in North-East SCOTLAND.	...	Slight damage and a few casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	8 planes.	No loss.
10—8—41. (Sunday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	One point in SCOTLAND ...	...	No damage or casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	6 planes	Only slight damage.
11—8—41. (Monday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
	No air activity at all the whole of the day and night.	...	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA ...	2 planes.	No damage.
	EGYPT.		
	ALEXANDRIA ...	...	Four people injured; only slight damage.
	SUEZ Canal Area ...	...	8 people killed and 13 injured.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	2 planes.	...

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE PERSIAN DANGER. We fear we have no great circulation in IRAN—yet !--but perhaps some of our readers have correspondents in that menaced country, and they'd be doing a useful job by passing on some of the following considerations.

It looks as if IRAN to-day can be compared closely to RUMANIA and BULGARIA of a year ago in the matter of German 'infiltration'. The latter two countries exhibited the three stages of German domination very clearly. Their own people did not see them so clearly—and behold their wretched condition to-day ! Here are the stages : –

(i) Introduction of German 'specialists' as key-men in the main industries.

(ii) The use of such prominent and highly-paid men as propaganda agents and Fifth Column organisers.

(iii) Reinforcement of this 'advance guard' by "tourists".

It is sufficiently obvious from all reports, and from the statements of Mr. Eden in Parliament, that IRAN is already in the third stage!

IRAN, it is true, has repeatedly declared her neutrality, but her authorities and her people should remind themselves that German economic control invariably leads to political domination, and they only have to read official German politico-economic theses to see that her Middle-Eastern policy involves the economic control of TURKEY and IRAN, of SYRIA and IRAQ, right down to the head of the Persian Gulf. It has been recently exemplified by Rashid Ali in IRAQ, and by VICHY in SYRIA. The papers make daily mention of 'pressure' on TURKEY, and RUMANIA and BULGARIA are already under the yoke that was first fitted lightly to their necks in the form of economic agreements.

INDIA's interest in bringing this home to her other near neighbours IRAQ, and AFGHANISTAN is also sufficiently obvious!

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POISONOUS EYEWASH. We are used to hypocrisies as fantastic as they are blatant in German 'conversations' and pacts and other documents, but the pupil does even better than his master in

the Japanese Government's announcement of the outcome of 'friendly conversations' with VICHY about INDO-CHINA.

(i) These 'conversations' were not 'friendly'. They were DEMANDS, as Pétain has since feebly confessed. They were backed by the threat of force, and the French had to look as if they were getting instead of granting favours. In the characteristic Axis way, incidentally, the Jap papers just before the 'conversations' were full of wild accusations against INDO-CHINA herself!

(ii) The document twice uses the sickening 'co-prosperity sphere' cliché. Not much 'co-' about Japanese actions since! 'Co-prosperity' seems simply and exactly 'Japanese monopoly' of all the resources her nearest neighbours offer.

(iii) 'The security of INDO-CHINA' is another altruistic aim of Nippon! Do you remember the German 'protection' of NORWAY, or of DANZIG, or of RUMANIA?!

(iv) A solemn undertaking to respect the "territorial integrity and sovereignty" of INDO-CHINA must be a very precious boon to FRANCE's prized Colony, when all its ports and airfields are already in Japanese hands.

(v) But the best bit of all is the reference to the cultural, historical and economic ties existing between JAPAN and INDO-CHINA. What about the cultural and economic ties between INDO-CHINA and MALAYA? Are the Japanese proposing to *share* relations, especially economic, with MALAYA, or assist to promote such relations between her and INDO CHINA? On the pattern, perhaps, of MANCHURIA, or CHINA? Oh, this 'co-prosperity'!!

* * * * *

THE NEIGHBOURS. Why on earth publish such tripe, one asks? No one is deceived by it. Look at the reactions in the neighbourhood. Simultaneously both BRITAIN and the U. S. A. froze all Japanese assets. Almost immediately the DUTCH EAST INDIES followed suit. VICHY was asked, in Mr. Sumner Welles' most pointed and sardonic manner, how many more strategic lollipops she proposed to hand on a dish to the enemies of liberty. The 'A. B. C. D.' front (AMERICA, BRITAIN, CHINA and the DUTCH EAST INDIES) is now consolidated, and to judge by to-day's papers they do not propose to allow JAPAN to push on with such 'diplomatic' triumphs in the direction of THAILAND (August 8). The rape of a colony from a decadent and cowardly European 'Rump' may prove an easier task for the Japanese than the execution of a typically Nazi design

against a strategically and economically important neutral like THAILAND. A week or two should show, but we have these facts to support a certain amount of optimism :—

(i) THAILAND is strongly nationalistic and utterly determined to maintain her independence.

(ii) Some months ago she concluded a non-aggression pact with BRITAIN, who has since been supplying her with oil.

(iii) Pacts with BRITAIN mean something—unlike pacts with GERMANY or JAPAN. The Thais know and publicly admit this.

(iv) Anglo-Thai relations are cordial in the extreme. THAI announcers constantly stress this, and publicly admit that they have no fear or suspicion about British moves in MALAYA, which are always undertaken with their full knowledge.

(v) Neither Mr. Cordell Hull nor Mr. Anthony Eden talk through their hats, or promise what they don't intend to fulfil. If one is not being misled by to-day's papers, JAPAN has been very straightly told to keep her hands off THAILAND.

* * * * *

THE MEDITERRANEAN. With the world's attention mainly fixed on RUSSIA the Battle of the Mediterranean, which is still in full swing, is apt to escape notice, even when so remarkable a feat as the passage of a large and important convoy from end to end of the sea is successfully effected. A large part of the Italian fleet is still in being, and the enemy have great geographical advantages in all the various 'narrows', yet though it was persistently attacked (mainly from the air, and less effectively by mosquito-craft—the Italian battle-fleet was still conspicuous by its absence!) for twenty-seven hours, it got to its destination without the loss of a cargo. THAT is what 'command of the sea' means-beating off air attacks in the narrows south of SARDINIA, again in the Sicilian narrows, and a running twenty-seven hour battle along the southern coasts of CRETE. How do the Germans reconcile this with their claim to 'control' the whole of the Eastern Mediterranean.

The fact is that although they are maintaining pressure in the Mediterranean—with their land advantages and the mere existence of the remaining big ships of the Italians, there must always be 'pressure' for the Royal Navy to resist—Hitler's fond plan for ousting the Navy from the Middle Sea, so that *his* convoys for AFRICA, and the LEVANT and EGYPT could move undisturbed, has gone up in smoke. He knows now that if he is to seize the

Suez Canal and overrun the MIDDLE EAST, he has got to do it by land. *If* he defeats RUSSIA, he may be able to outflank the entire Middle East and our strongholds there, in which case the Mediterranean would become untenable for us, but by common consent that 'if' is now a pretty big one!

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WAR ON TWO—OR TEN!—FRONTS. Those of you who read our first "RUSSIA" article some weeks ago, will perhaps have deduced that we are not of that wishful company who think that a "war on two fronts" is synonymous with "the decline and fall of the Third Reich". The infernal head of that monstrous polity not only will, but *can*, make war on as many fronts as he thinks will damage us, dissipate Allied forces, or overawe those who have not yet been directly attacked, by virtue of his control of the most formidable military machine the world has ever seen.

There is no free nation in any part of the Earth's surface to-day who is not in almost immediate danger—TURKEY, SPAIN, IRAN, AMERICA and so on. The least complacency on the part of any 'neutral' let alone on the part of the Allies or any part of the Empire, would be utterly unjustified and false. The man is a megalomaniac, out for world-domination, with—at least to his own mind—the means to his hand. Who can afford to sit back and sip wishfully at an unestablished cliché?

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SCORCHED EARTH. The third great German attack has begun in RUSSIA. A week of it is past, and they have no substantiated victory of any magnitude to show for it, though BERLIN communiqués announce phenomenal Russian losses, and ODESSA and LENINGRAD do seem in rather more danger than at the end of Phase Two. It may be that before these notes see the light, the Russians may be a bit worse off in these respects, but how much better off will the Germans be? Aye, there's the rub.

The Germans invented a thing called 'Total War'. It meant an offensive against unprepared and unsuspecting people, with every possible weapon of war in quantities hitherto unimagined. The Russians seem to have invented something even better, "Total Resistance"—and the Germans don't like it a bit.

Official circles in BERLIN have admittedly been greatly perturbed by the systematic destruction of property and stocks, of fields, and wells, and factories, by their gallant and self-sacrificing enemy. There is no food left for

the advancing Huns, no water (except contaminated wells), no transport, no oil for their own lengthening motorized commisariat—it's all most unsporting of the accursed Bolshevists !

But what a spirit our Allies display, in their fulfilment of their leader's 'scorched earth' edict ! Tractors and fires are being used to destroy crops, CZERNOWITZ, LIBAU, MINSK and TARNAPOL, were all found smouldering in ruins when the Germans came. When the 'Rumanians' 'liberated 'KISHINEV it took them three days to quench the flames. At VAERTSILAE, where once the Siemens—Martin works turned out 30,000 tons of finished steel a year, only two buildings of any sort were found standing !

Meanwhile all over RUSSIA, especially in areas near the battle, their undamaged transport system collects and convoys to safety everything that can be of use to defending armies hundreds of miles north and east. A special drive to get the harvest cut and the grain threshed, transported and stored out of reach of the enemy, is going on. All through the UKRAINE, men work in the fields by moonlight, as well as by day. The collective farms in the CRIMEA have already delivered their crop to the elevators. And the women of the country take their posts at the tractors, and elevators and lorries and railway stations, while their men face the foe. If and when the Russians win the campaign, no nation will ever have better *deserved* victory !

BLITZ.

THE AMAZING SPEED OF MODERN WAR.

SINCE Hitler marched against Russia, indeed long before in a sense, Hitler's ambition to dominate the world became clear to all those who were not blind or wilfully blindfold. We have been inclined to comfort ourselves by comparing Hitler with Napoleon. It is an easy thing to do. After all, we say, all tyrants overreach themselves sooner or later. Napoleon marched to Moscow, found the city in flames, and had to lead his broken army back through the snow to face a Europe which had risen against his domination. How comforting to believe that Hitler has made the same blunder now. It may be that he has. **However I do not think we should place too great a faith in these historical parallels. War has speeded up since Napoleon's day. It took nearly twenty years to defeat him. It is quite certain that the world cannot stand twenty years of war at its present pace.**

There is a more instructive lesson which we can learn by considering

Napoleon's career. When he was just starting out to apply his new doctrines to the art of war, these words were written by a Prussian General. "In my youth" he said, "We used to march up and down all the summer without gaining or losing a square league. And then we went into winter quarters. And now comes an ignorant, hot headed young man who flies about from Boulogne to Ulm and from Ulm to the middle or Moravia and fights battles in December. The whole system of his tactics is monstrously incorrect." Hitler's tactics are as monstrously incorrect as Napoleon's. He disregarded the party authorities who impressed upon him the need for defending his communications against French attack, and after breaking through at Sedan in France sent his columns racing to Abbeville. Napoleon had done the same, and his cavalry which fought at Jena did not stop until they reached Hamburg. Hitler worked out a new system of demoralising the enemy lines by dropping parachutists and troops carriers behind them. Napoleon would send a few drummers to the rear of his opponents. The sound of their drums, foreshadowing the arrival of a new army, spread panic in the enemy's ranks. Finally Hitler devised a plan whereby his artillery could travel at 200 and 300 miles an hour, his air force working in co-operation with his army is a lineal descendent of Napoleon's fast moving drums.

Now what has been the total effect of these and other improvements which the German military leaders have introduced into the art of war. The answer can be given in one word, Speed. The whole business is being terrifically accelerated, whereas in the last war single battles continued for days and even weeks, now Hitler has been able to accomplish the downfall of whole nations in days and weeks. In the space of five years, the pace of warfare has been speeded up more than in the whole previous century. Just consider for instance how the idea of the blitzkreig has been developed during the last half decade. The Germans first tried out their new system in Spain. In the year 1938 German tanks cut their way through the Clanagon Front towards the Spanish coast at the rate of four miles per day. The attack on Warsaw in the Polish war averaged twelve miles a day for 150 miles. In the race towards the channel coast across Flanders, the tanks moved at 14 miles a day. In France they achieved a rate of 30 miles a day for three days. In Libya, General Wavell improved on this record. However when the Germans retaliated in Libya they achieved a rate of 30 miles a day for 12 days. Think of it. 4 miles a day in Spain, 12 miles a day in Poland, 30 miles a day in Libya.

At such a prodigious pace the art of war is changing under the impact of war. **It means that Generals can now contemplate achieving in days what was once the work of weeks and months, and even years.** It means that Generals **must** think in these terms if they are to have any success

in modern battle. Speed is the key to victory. Time governs all, and it is exactly this calculation of time which lies at the root of Hitler's latest campaign. As we look at the vast extent of Russia, as we think of Napoleon, we may be inclined to think in terms of months and years. **Hitler thinks in terms of days**. The German newspapers have already said so. They say that Russia will lie prostrate in 70 days. This is the fact that reveals the whole of Hitler's strategy. This is the method in his anti-Bolshevik mania. Hitler hopes that in 70 days, the Russian army will be dissolved, the Russian air force broken, that all machines and men, the whole apparatus of Hitler's military power, may be brought Westward to be launched against this island. He envisages the defeat of Russia in a matter of days, the invasion of this island in a matter of days, the final victory in a matter of days. **He thinks in terms of days because he believes that the full mobilisation of American industry, the full supply of goods across the Atlantic to this country must be a matter of months (and 30 of these days have now passed! Ed.)**

How then will his plan be defeated? It will be defeated only if Britain and America, who have pledged themselves to sustain Russia in her fight against the common enemy, also think in term of days. Well, here in this country during the past week, we believe we have made a start. Down along the Southern coast of this island the citizens of Britain by day and night are watching and listening. The skies are friendly now. No longer do we hear the roar of aeroplanes in the heavens above us, no longer do they tell a tale of British towns laid waste, of British homes disrupted, of pains and sorrows which no words can appease. Instead there is a note of revenge and hope in the humming of bombers. Dover, which has felt the lash of Nazi gun and aeroplanes, gives to our fighters the last greeting on the outward voyage and first greeting home. **It is September and November of last year in reverse**. A new sense of thrill, not merely from the hearts of those who can see the spectacle with their own eyes. It also brings comfort to the heavily bombed centres of Plymouth and Coventry and Merseyside and London.

Every day and every night for the past fortnight British bombers and British fighters have set out from these shores to carry the war deeper and harder into conquered Europe and into Germany herself. How has this change of fortune been made possible? There are two simple reasons, and we cannot afford to forget either. First, and most obviously, we must thank the Russians. They have drawn a part of the *Luftwaffe* Eastwards. The Russians have given us a chance to choose our targets more freely, to strike with better force, to strike with fewer losses. However, there is a **second reason.** The bombers which set out from our air bases to-day are the bombers which the

British people turned out from the factories two or three months ago. **All through last year this nation knew that its very life was at stake. The people went to work with a new will and heart. We profit today from those months of hard exertion. Had it not been for that period of preparation, we should not now have been able to seize the opportunity presented to us by the Russian war.** The same argument applies still. Upon the work which we do now, upon our power now to accumulate more machines, will depend the fate of the battle sixty or seventy days hence. If we should fail in that task now, it will be too late two months hence, either to sustain the Russians, or to save ourselves.

You will understand then, there is no feeling in this land that the Russian war provides an excuse for a relaxation of our efforts. The effect has been exactly the opposite. When the news came through that the Germans had actually gone to war with the Russians, a great sense of excitement swept this country. Here was our chance to show the world that we could give it as well as take it. When a few hours later still Mr. Churchill pronounced Britain's policy of unqualified support for Soviet Russia in clear, emphatic, flaming rhetoric, the excitement increased. We were going to do it. When President Roosevelt spoke in the same sense, a new stir was given to our emotions. An angry and resolute world of free men seemed to be rising to strike vengeance against the Nazi hords. As day after day and night after night the news came through of the mounting ferocity of Britain's war in the air, our hopes were set high. Neither Mr. Churchill, nor President Roosevelt, nor the Royal Air Force had lost one minute of precious time. Time, the ruling monarch in this war of quick battles, time, which Hitler has shown us to be more precious even than oil or steel or radium or rubies. That is the mood of this country today. We hope it is also the mood on the other side of the Atlantic. **Every day counts now. Hitler's whole plan depends on the calendar.** If we strike so hard now that German aeroplanes have to be brought back from Hitler's Eastern-front, if we can batter his cities and lay waste his air bases, if we can compel the Nazis to fight the war they have always feared, the war on two fronts, then we shall not only help to save the Russians, we shall be saving ourselves. The people of Britain are saying today, "Use every bomber, wield every instrument, fling in every scrap of metal, we have been given a gift from the gods. We may never get another if we spurn this We have been granted a chance in a million. It may be the last. Speed is the great necessity. Act now and we seize the initiative from the Nazi hands. Act now, and we may thwart Hitler's plans for the invasion of this island. Act now and we may save the world years of long agonising war."

RUSSIA, THE ENIGMA.

WE ARE FOR THOSE WHO FIGHT THE CHALLENGE OF GERMANY.

WHEN we were faced by the sudden invasion of Russia by Germany, Mr. Churchill, with a single broad stroke of statesmanship, noting all the obstacles only to dispose of them, declared at once the unanimous decision of our government to give all possible help to anyone who is fighting Hitler, and this motto has been repeated already by several statesmen on your side. We all support Mr. Churchill in this, whatever our differences of opinion. He himself was the leading figure here in the anti-Bolshevist intervention in the latter phases of the last war. He was then Minister for War. The friendly provisional government of Russia had kept Russia's engagements, and tried to continue the war on our side with an army which had been wiped out and renewed three times over. When it was swept away by the irresistible desire for peace, and gave way to the Bolsheviks, we naturally could not turn our backs on those Russians who still insisted on fighting on our side, by so doing repudiating the humiliating treaty of Brest-Litovsk. Mr. Churchill is saying now the same thing as he said then. "We are for those who fight the challenge of Germany." He fastened at once on the point that it is now the Russian people defending its homes against the same world aggressor as ourselves. Yes, as Mr. Churchill put it, it is the Russian people defending its homestead.

A RETROSPECT.

So it was in the last war. The Czar was the symbol of Russia, but apart from that, he had very little to do with it. In fact, his weak and amiable personality, dominated by a fanatically autocratic wife, was one of the prime causes of Russia's failure. I was with the Russian army throughout that time, and I know what the effect was for us at the front. On May 2, 1915, I was at the spot where Mackenssen first broke through in a great drive which swept us out of Galicia as far back to the Pinsk marshes, where the Russian army is fighting to-day. I sat on a low hill with in front of me the great range of Carpathian mountains, and the action was going on a quarter of a mile below me. I could see for some five miles on each side. It was an unbroken line of enemy fire with no reply whatever from us. A soldier passed me. "Have you come from trenches?" I said. "There are no trenches," he replied. "They have all been wiped out by enemy gun fire." "You know, sir," said another soldier to me, not at all with a note of complaint, "we have only one weapon, the soldier's breast. Men can die where they stand, but they

cannot beat metal if they have no metal of their own." The division with which I was that day, normally 16,000, was reduced to 500, the regiment from 4,000 to 41, forty men and one officer. The figure of Russian losses for the first ten months, which I had to bring back confidentially from the Russian War Office to Lord Kitchener, was 3,800,000. "In the great ledger of the war casualties," writes Hindenburg later, "the record of the Russian losses has been torn out. Five millions or eight, we shall never know. I can only say that over and over again we had to sweep away the heaps of Russian dead to get a free range on a new advancing Russian wave."

FAILURE OF ENCIRCLEMENT.

In spite of all this, as Ludendorff and Hauptmann constantly reported, the Russians, with the fiercest rearguard actions, regardless of all losses, retreated only step by step, the first Caucasian Corps for instance a mile and a half a day; and were always able to rescue their bulging centre from all the German attempts of encirclement. And Ludendorff concludes his sketch of the campaign, in which enormous distances of Russian territory were traversed, with the verdict that it was a tragic disappointment, for he had won nothing but a tactical success.

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION.

These colossal losses were the real reason of the Russian Revolution. In those days, one hardly heard the name of Marx. It was to come to the fore only after the Revolution.

RUSSIA TO-DAY.

If that was the Russian soldier even in those terrible conditions, he has a very different task now. Let those who have not seen Russia for the last 20 years and see the country as it was when they last saw it, make no mistake. The present government represents the Russian people with a vigour and a reality which the dying régime of the Czar could never claim. Every Russian is again fighting for his home. But this time, infinitely more than before, he feels his own share in his country, and has been braced to a new vigour for its defence. The chief effect of Stalin's Five-Year Plan is precisely that their pitiable lack of munition no longer exists. Russia is now full of machinery of all kinds, rough and ready it may be, but in all probability in larger quantities than Germany can command.

TROTSKY AND STALIN.

Since Stalin's triumph over Trotsky in 1928, Russia has taken far more interest in her own development and her own defence than in vague hopes of a world revolution. Perhaps on your side you know a great deal more than we do about the trouble between Stalin and Trotsky, but the whole point of it was this: that Trotsky stood at all costs for going on sowing sedition in all other countries. Stalin has stood far more for the development and defence of Russia. He took as his motto, 'Socialism in one country', which means that his principal argument for

the merits of Socialism is the argument of example. All the earlier Bolsheviks were conspirators who had spent most of their lives abroad; and for them world revolution was everything. Stalin and his collaborators of to-day have hardly ever been outside Russia. How could they run a world revolution? Their task has been different. They have produced through the work of the Five-Year Plan a new generation of Russians, hardened and braced by all that the country has gone through, and trained in many branches of administrative experience. This work has offered an unlimited field of endeavour for young men in the early thirties, with responsible posts which could not have come their way in many other countries. Hitler has done the same. It was like that in France in 1793. In that year, generals sometimes went to the guillotine, but on the other hand, Marechal Ney came through in a single campaign from Corporal to General of a division, and later on to Marechal of the Empire. And from that time, as Napoleon put it, every private soldier could feel that he carried in his knapsack the baton of a Field Marshal. That is probably the chief of all differences between the old Russian army and that of to-day. Beyond that, Russia has now her own technicians trained in the administrative work of the Five-Year Plan. In the Czarist régime, it was practically impossible to promote many N. C. O.'s to commissions, so many of the best fighting men couldn't read or write. Now education is universal. But I am sure that what was good in the old army remains in the new, and they are fighting for Russia, not for Communism. This is clear from all the fight reports from Russia. I saw this change coming on several recent visits to Russia. The permanent thing was clearly always the country, not the particular flag that happened to be planted in the soil, nor the particular letters which happened to be written on it.

COMMUNISM.

As to Communism, I don't dismiss it off hand. If the Russians choose to practice it, that is their affair. As a matter of fact, it is the official view in Russia to-day that the final stage of Communism has not yet been reached, but already there are no more class distinctions. Communism may be a rather confusing term. The truest Communists that I know are monks of the Catholic Church. Pretty well every Russian has a tinge of Socialism, but to do things for others as well as himself is a thing which instinctively gives him pleasure. Thus, the constructive work of the Five-Year Plan, which is not for the benefit of the individual millionaires but for the community as a whole, appeals to him irresistibly.

RELIGION OF COMMUNISM.

On the other hand, I cannot see that the persecution of religion need ever have had anything to do with Communism. It certainly is dead against Russian nature. I often asked Soviet officials, "Isn't it perfectly clear that Jesus Christ was what you call a proletarian?" They said that religion has been perverted, and there

are certainly plenty of inconsistencies in the histories of all the churches, but why not put them right? They could have had religion with them in their new venture, and it would have been a wonderful support to them. It was really a bee in the bonnet of Karl Marx, who something like a hundred years ago, living in England, not in Russia, considered that the country clergyman was generally in the pocket of his squire; and without any regard to history, he made out that the Church is nothing more than the support for capitalism. From this he deduced that Jesus Christ was a Capitalist. One thing certain is that the Russian mind cannot be made irreligious, for the sense of the unseen world is his deepest instinct and treasure. Every idea which Russia takes from elsewhere, she turns into a religion, Marxism as much as anything else. So it has proved. The able leader of the Union of the Godless is constantly complaining of the complete apathy and futility of his followers. It is years now since the Minister of Education,..........., then leader of the attack on religion, confessed his failure in these notable words: "Religion is like a nail. The harder you hit it, the deeper it goes into the wood."

THE NATIONAL SPIRIT: THE DEFENCE OF THE SACRED HOMELAND.

All of the reports from the front so far, show the Russian soldier fighting with equal vigour and more initiative than in the last war. The first accounts from the Russian rear are full of spirit. They are before all things national, and the war cannot fail to emphasise more and more all that is national in Russia. We know how the Government had been hurrying on production throughout the Five-Year Plan. Now patriotic meetings are taking place in every factory, and the men are themselves asking to double their tasks. The Government itself has reverted to a language which is entirely national. All the triumphs of the past, from the long centuries of Czardom are recalled. And even further back, the famous Battle of the Ice, in which Alexander Nevsky routed the old orders of German knighthood, is celebrated in a wonderful film. Molotov in his speech at one point after another re-echoes the words with which Alexander the First took up the challenge of Napoleon. Everywhere the motto is "the defence of the sacred Soviet homeland against the insolent aggressor." And a German is the enemy whom the Russian fights with the greatest resentment and the greatest pleasure. He knew him at home through long generations as always the little bully, the petty jack in office with a delegated authority. He did not know how to face this silent widespread penetration of German influence. And there is nothing that can please him more than to stand face to face with him on the field of battle.

THE 'CEILING' RACE

NEW BRITISH HIGH-FLYING FIGHTERS.
STRATEGY OF STRATOSPHERE COMBATS.
ADVANTAGES OF BIG BOMBERS.
PROBLEMS OF STANDARDISATION.

by

Oliver Stewart (*In a recent B.B.C. talk.*)

COL. Moore Brabazon, Minister for Aircraft Production, when he was talking in the House of Commons the other day, mentioned two matters which have always interested me a lot. First of all he said that we had new fighting aeroplanes which could fly at more than 40,000 feet. Then he mentioned that a big bombing aeroplane took 75,000 men-hours to build the machine alone.

So far the official communiqués have recorded air fighting taking place at 35,000 feet, but not much higher. But it is obvious that the Royal Air Force will gain a big advantage if it can extend up another 5,000 feet to make it 40,000 feet, or, more or less, more than seven and a half miles.

Fighting formations here are about the only things that are built from the top downwards. The highest layer of aircraft has a big influence on what the formation is capable of when it meets the enemy. If you imagine a formation of three layers, and if you imagine the top layer getting embroiled with the enemy, then the next lower layer becomes more vulnerable and so on right down to the bombers, in probably the lowest layer of all.

ATTACKS IN THE AIR.

But if the top layer is so high that the enemy fighters are unable to reach it, it can sit there watching the layer next below and guarding it from attack. Attack in the air can be made from below upwards, and this kind of attack is often tried. But it comes mostly from above. So as long as bombing aeroplanes have an escort flying along above them, they are well guarded.

If the enemy machines dive on them, their escort comes rushing down to the rescue and the enemy has to turn to deal with them. So if you think of this big three-layer formation going out over enemy country and being engaged by enemy fighters, you can see why, as the battle is joined, the formation tends to shut up like a telescope from the top downwards. What

the enemy would like to do would be to prevent the shutting up process, and to send fighters to engage the top layer and keep it busy, while other fighters go in and destroy the lower layers of bombers.

So it is obviously advantageous, when the visibility is good and offensive sweeps far over enemy country are being made, if the topmost layer of escorting fighters can be so high that it is not likely to be dived on by enemy machines. That is really the reason why so much thought and energy have been expended lately on improving the climbing powers of fighters.

STRATOSPHERE FIGHTERS.

The Minister for Aircraft Production, was the first person to mention that any war aircraft could reach 40,000 feet with full military equipment. And consequently I take his remarks to mean that British designers and constructors have had some special success in this direction.

The new German Messerschmidt 109 F single-seat fighter is expressly designed for use at great heights, but the estimated ceiling of this machine is thought to be less than that of these new R. A. F. machines and is usually given as between 35,000 and 38,000 feet. If these figures are proved to be right in practice, the R.A.F. stratosphere fighters will have an advantage of a couple of thousand feet or so over their adversaries.

That is not a very big advantage, but height is so important in air fighting that it should be enough. No details have yet been given about the high-flying British fighters, but it seems that they are not new types but a modification of existing fighters.

The pilots may have a hard time when they fight at around 38,000 feet, because one has to assume that they are kept alive by oxygen apparatus, and are not housed in pressure cabins or pressure suits. But this much can be said—that so long as we can fly higher than the Germans, we shall have a good chance of giving our bombers strong daylight protection when they go over to attack Germany.

QUESTION OF BIG BOMBERS.

Col. Moore Brabazon's other point was about the men-hours taken to build a large bomber. He quoted the figure of 75,000 men-hours for the machine alone. That is a very big amount of work, an enormously greater amount than was required for the bombers of 1914—18. Many people complain that the great expenditure of men-hours on manufacture is one of the serious drawbacks of the big bombers. That is why some of them have advocated many small bombers rather than few large ones.

But one has to look at the whole picture. The point is not what each machine costs in men-hours to make, but the men-hours that go into the whole task of conveying a given weight of bombs to a given point and discharging it there and returning. When you look at it in that way you find that the very big bomber is not so expensive as it appears at first.

It may carry a load of bombs equal to that of three smaller machines. It will, therefore, ease the aerodrome traffic problem at night, for only one third the number of aircraft will have to take off and land for a given weight of attack at a given time. And it also uses fewer trained men. It may be that the number of trained men required to carry a given load will be a good deal less than half the number required when many small machines are used.

STANDARDISATION.

All these things tend to balance out the increased men-hours in the workshops and all of them argue in favour of the very large-sized bombers, But I do not think—and I believe that in this my views are the same as those of most Air Force officers—that it is possible to concentrate on the large-size bombers and to cease to make smaller machines. A very large bomber can work only when it can get some kind of protection from outside, either protection by concealment in the clouds and darkness, or protection by fighter escort.

Sometimes the use of bombers without any sort of protection has to be contemplated, as when a daylight raid is to be made on an objective too distant for the fighters to reach. Then the smaller and faster bomber is needed. In the big R.A.F. offensive that has been going on during the part weeks, heavy bombers have been used both by night and by day. But the smaller bombers, like the Blenheim, have also been doing a great deal of work.

So there seems to be no way out of the problem of production and standardisation. The men-hours needed for the very big bombers can be reduced if we could standardise them and have all our bombers made to one mould. But that is not feasible because operations will not allow it.

People who are on the production side are always seeking to increase the degree of standardisation. But the pilots and air crews have the last word and they cannot accept it.

TWO THOUSAND TONS OF BOMBS IN 25 NIGHTS.

R. A. F. ATTACKS ON RUHR DISTRICT.

WHAT PHOTOGRAPHS OF MUNSTER SHOW.

*The **Manchester Guardian** writes on July 17* :

In the 25 days from June 16 to July 10, night bombers of the R. A. F. dropped nearly 2,000 tons of high-explosive and incendiary bombs on the vital Ruhr district of Germany. During the same period over 500 tons of bombs were dropped on Bremen, and nearly 1,000 tons on Cologne.

These figures were given by authoritative quarters in London as an example of the increasing weight of our bombiug offensive against Germany which, the Prime Minister promised, will increase in severity month by month.

The dislocation of Germany's heavy industries has been serious. At Munster the havoc has been particularly extensive, especially among railway and other communications. At Duisburg, the largest inland port in Europe, and also important as a railway industry centre, the Thyssen steel works received six direct hits in an attack on the night of June 16—17. Oil tanks were set on fire, and it is now known that many factory workers were thrown out of work.

At Cologne, the fourth city in Germany, important for its chemicals and synthetic oil and rubber and explosive factories, the main station has been severely damaged, and all main and goods railway lines have been so thoroughly bombed that no sorting of trucks was possible for a considerable time. The main traffic arteries on the eastern bank of the Rhine are believed to have been put out of action for some weeks.

Of the targets in occupied France, two of the three power stations supplying the great manufacturing town of Lille have been hit and damaged, and elsewhere power stations and factories have been bombed.

Over Heligoland and Bremen daylight raids by unescorted bombers have met with considerable success. A daring and effective attack on Bremen was made during the "rush hour" when the streets were crowded.

Photographs of Munster taken by R. A. F. reconnaissance aeroplanes after the first raid prove that the town contained military objectives. The Germans recently described "unhappy Munster" as a cathedral town with no industry except breweries.

An official of the Ministry of Economic Warfare showed a reporter photographs which demonstrate that the effect of the raid—the first of a series at night—was almost entirely concentrated on the aerodrome, which is a very

substantial one. All the aerodrome buildings have been burnt out, and the adjoining barracks were badly knocked about; the Dortmund-Ems canal, which lies round part of the aerodrome, and a big railway junction also suffered. All these military objectives are concentrated in one district.

"The Photographs show clearly to an expert that there was practically no damage to the residential district", said the official. "On military targets the bombing was pretty accurate and effective."

POSITION OF AXIS FORCES IN LIBYA.

The Times Special Correspondent in Cairo cabled on July 10:

There is evidence that the frequent sinkings of Axis supply ships bound for Libya by British submarines, destroyers and naval aircraft, and the effective bombardment of Libyan ports and aerodromes by the R. A. F. are making the position of the German-Italian force in Libya extremely uncomfortable, if not precarious. The Axis Powers now have a definite shortage of vessels in the Mediterranean suitable for transporting heavy armoured vehicles and other forms of bulky cargo, so that further supply of heavy tanks and armoured cars to the forces in Libya is becoming problematical. It is also probable that the damage done to quays in Tripoli and Benghazi by the R. A. F. bombardment has added further to the difficulty of handling heavy cargoes. The port of Benghazi has had on an average ten tons of high-explosives emptied on to the quay every night during the last three weeks. Large vessels certainly can no longer be brought alongside the quays, but have to unload their cargoes into lighters. Third rate ports such as Derna and Appolonia are being used owing to the difficulties at Benghazi

The feeling of uneasiness which has overtaken the Axis forces in Libya is demonstrated by the fact that the initiative has for a long time passed into British hands. The Italians and Germans dare not even attack Tobruk, which they regarded as an easy prey three months ago, as they dare not risk again the heavy losses of men and materials which they incurred in their previous attacks. Evidence shows that the German Africa corps is not getting used to desert warfare; indeed, its members think that they are great heroes to be there at all, but at the same time the idea of a compass march from one map reference to another thoroughly scares them, because it will represent to them the risk of losing their way or perishing miserably by thirst.

BIGGER AND BETTER BOMBS!!
RACE FOR AIR-STRIKING POWER.

By

The Aeronautical Correspondent of the ***Yorkshire Post.***

WHEN the Prime Minister promised that we should try to go on increasing the scale of the R. A. F. bombing attack on Germany, he directed attention to one of the factors which may in future have a very big influence on the achievement of final victory. Bombing is measured by weight, when the opposing air forces are approximately equal in training and equipment. It is not the question how many bombs are dropped, but what weight of bombs is dropped. In that respect, the R. A. F. has lately made enormous progress. Moreover, we balance our bombing against our resources, and so it is sustained.

Now, the strategical situation is such that the R. A. F. has a much bigger problem to solve when it attacks Germany than the *Luftwaffe* has when it attacks Britain. The distances are longer, and consequently the fuel loads, greater, and the margin of lift for carrying bombs is less. But the R. A. F. heavy bombing aircraft are on the whole superior in design to the German machines, and are therefore able to carry greater weights for longer distances than enemy aircraft. And when the big new bombers began to come into service, the position was still further improved.

These machines can carry really large loads, and carry them economically. Lieutenant Colonel Moore-Brabazon said in the House of Commons that one of these big machines may require 75,000 man hours in construction, but if that amount of work should be placed against the load of bombs which the aircraft can discharge, and if the relatively few trained men needed to discharge that load be also considered, it will be seen that there is a big operational economy to be derived from the use of very large aircraft, provided they work under cover of cloud or darkness, or are well protected by heavy fighter escorts.

Mr. Churchill's words do not give us a precise figure to work upon, but we may assume that it is now possible for the R. A. F. to carry to targets in Germany some hundreds of tons in one raid.

In a mounting bombing attack there are many things to be considered, and among the most important is the suiting of the type of bomb to be used to the selected target. It is no good dropping a medium size bomb on a battleship. On the other hand, it is grossly uneconomic to drop an immense

armour-piercing bomb on a troop concentration. Then, again, there is the question of whether it is better to assemble large forces of bombers over a period of time and then launch one huge concentrated attack, or whether to spread the bombing so that the attack, though less heavy, is sustained.

A terrific attack on a single target, though devastating at the time fails sometimes in its purpose of permanently damaging that target, and that permanent damage can be done only by means of sustained bombing. Sustained bombing demands a large fleet of aircraft and considerable crew reserves. For some time before the German aggression against Russia, the R. A. F. has been maintaining its attack on Germany on a mounting crescendo of effort.

The weather might at any time interrupt bombing, but it is unlikely now that anything else will interrupt it. Bombing will go on until a stage is reached where it has wrecked the German war machine. But, before that stage is reached the Germans must reassemble their bomber forces for another counter-attack on this country.

That is what Mr. Churchill meant when he alluded to the probability of even heavier attacks to be faced here. Supposing we were unable to defend ourselves against those attacks from the air, they would develop into a slogging match, with the strategical advantage on the enemy's side but with greater powers of resistance on our side. If, however—as we have some reason to hope—our night defences have been vastly improved, so that toll will be taken of German bombers, then it may be that the balance of bombing will swing more and more in our favour.

We will certainly hit harder and harder with bigger machines and more of them. We will also supplement our night bombing with day bombing, so that a big weight of high explosives will be dropped on the enemy in every 24 hours. Meanwhile we will give our own cities better protection. The cities may be called upon to bear more heavy attacks, but they will do so with greater readiness when they know that the proportion of German bombers being brought down is increasing, and the attacks we are delivering are heavier than the ones we are receiving.

So we come to the crucial problem of whether bombing can win wars—whether, when our attack reaches the peak of its intensity, it will so strike into Germany, and so destroy the Teutonic conception of war being something which the Germans make others suffer without having to suffer it themselves, that they collapse.

We are not yet near the limit of possibility in bombing attack, and Germany is making desperate efforts to make up bombing fleets to ever greater dimensions.

We have reason to hope that the combined resources of Britain and the United States will give us a lead in that race of air-striking power which may prove the decisive element of the war.

COSMOPOLITANA.

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1. "We have now started on the road to victory. Nobody can name dates, but the day is not far off when the Germans, realising as in 1918 their losses, their failures and their shame, will crack up all of a sudden and collapse."

(*M. Gutt, Belgian Finance Minister, August 4*).

2. "There were satisfactory features in the present phase of the struggle which made it difficult for even the most philosophical to prevent cheerfulness from breaking in."

(*Mr. C. R. Attlee, Lord Privy Seal, August 6*).

3. "I am confident that in this war India will rise to even greater heights of glory than in the last, in the defence of her territory and the Empire."

(*H. H. The Maharaja of Patiala, Singapore, August 7*).

4. "The place to defend Australia is as far away from Australia as possible."

(*Mr. R. G. Casey, Australian Minister at U. S. A., August 7*).

5. If firmness is the only language Japan will listen to, it must be used till sanity again rules in Tokyo."

(*Daily Telegraph, August 8*).

6. "All Germany's victories have not brought her 'the victory.' Each one of her conquests take her further from the goal. From victory to victory Hitler is heading towards final catastrophe for himself, his régime and his people."

(*M. Paul Spaak, Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, London, August 9*).

7. "Let us, therefore, put aside our differences, communal, political and social, and work together for the duration of the war; and that very co-operation will make the eventual solution of our difficulties many times easier."

(*H. E. Sir Maurice Hallett, Governor, U. P., August 9*).

8. "The Hun is only 21 miles from Dover, yet he and his pagan ways are 2,000 years away from Dover."

(*Mr. Hopkins, President Roosevelt's Personal Envoy, broadcasting from London, July 27*).

9. "I am one of those who believe that India needs Britain even more than Britain needs India."

(*Sir Mirza Ismail at the Non-Party Leaders' Conference at Poona, July 27*).

10. "War in Russia more than anywhere else is one huge horror."

(*German soldier's letter quoted by the Berlin correspondent of the Zurich newspaper 'Bund', July 29*).

HOW THE GERMANS CHANGE THEIR IDEAS.
A GOEBBELS CALENDAR.
RESURRECTION OF RUSSIAN "LAST RESERVES."

Is This True?

(1) *June 30*—German Home Broadcast.

Only a day or two ago we were talking of a Russian retreat. Now they are simply running back in heedless flight.

Or Is This?

July 26—Frankfurter Zeitung.

Thus the Soviet Command never dreamt for a single moment of confining itself to the defensive but, from the very outset, met the German advance with offensive counter-attacks.

Is This True?	Or Is This?
(2) *June 30*—Rome Radio quoting Berlin.	*July 21*—German Home Broadcast.
The Red air force has lost nearly all its fighting power. It can now be fairly stated, therefore, that further German operations will be unhampered by Russian air activities.	Owing to the depth of the front our rear communications are continually exposed. The enemy air force particularly has singled out our supply lines as its principal objective.
(3) *July 17*—German High Command Communiqué.	*July 24*—*National Zeitung*, Essen.
In throwing its last reserves, the Soviet Command attempts to stem our onslaught.	The Russian High Command has immense human reserves. New masses of Soviet soldiers can always be mobilised to hurl against the German lines.
	July 26—German Home Broadcast. The Soviets have shown themselves able time and again to fling in fresh units.
(4) *July 17*—*Frankfurter Zeitung*. Technical mastery is a purely European phenomenon. Russian tanks are not of a high standard as regards technical quality.	*July 27*—German Home Broadcast. That Soviet equipment is more modern than that of any of our previous adversaries is known to everyone who has taken part in the eastern campaign.
(5) *July 15*—German Home Broadcast.	*July 24*—Berlin correspondent of the *Pesti*, Budapest.
Is it (the Anglo-Russian Pact) an event at all? What help can the Bolsheviks expect from London?	Increasing attention is being given in Berlin to news about direct military co-operation between Britain and the Soviet. This news is taken seriously in Berlin, and the plan has been described as one of great importance.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1941—

LECTURE LVII.

August	...16, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	17, Sunday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Thiruvarangulam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Vamban ...	6.30 p. m.
	18, Monday ...	College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		Melur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Pillamangalam ...	6.30 p. m.
	19, Tuesday ...	Kolavoipatti ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilayur (South) ...	6.30 p. m.
	20, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		Cheri School ...	5.30 p. m.
		Odukkur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Marudampatti (Nanguppatti).	6.30 p. m.
	21, Thursday ...	Vellanur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Sembattoor ...	6.30 p. m.
	22, Friday ...	Puliyur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kannangudi ...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LVIII.

23, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
24, Sunday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
	Poovarasagudi ...	6.00 p. m.
	Venkatakulam ...	6.30 p. m.
25, Monday ...	College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
	Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
	Perungalur ...	6.00 p. m.
	Adanakkottai ...	6.30 p. m.
26, Tuesday ...	Malampatti ...	6.00 p. m.
	Perambur ...	6.30 p. m.
27, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
	Tirugokarnam ...	5.30 p. m.
	Arimalam ...	6.00 p. m.
	Kilanilaikottai ...	6.30 p. m.
28, Thursday ...	Kiranur ...	6.00 p. m.
	Nanjur ...	6.30 p. m.
29, Friday ...	Odayalippatti ...	6.00 p. m.
	Killukottai ...	6.30 p. m.

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 1,000—16-8-41.